



Maricopa County Board of Supervisors

News Release

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An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure
**15th Annual Wilcox Late Night Basketball
Championship Games This Saturday !**

**Former Suns player Mark West and Current Cardinals Running Back J.R. Redman
will present trophies at 6:30 PM**

WHO: Youth from Maricopa County District 5

WHAT: 15th Annual Earl and Mary Rose Wilcox Late Night Basketball Championships

WHEN: Saturday, September 3

games beginning from 3:30 PM – trophies presented at 6:30 PM
dunk and 3-point shoot-out contests at 8 PM.

(exact schedule of 5 championship games and trophy ceremony below)

WHERE: Grant Park, 701 S. 3rd Ave. and Harmon Park, 1239 S. 5th Ave., Phoenix
The public is encouraged to come cheer on these teams. All events are free.

Saturday, September 3rd, will be the championship games of the 15th annual Wilcox Late Night Basketball tournament to take place at Grant and Harmon Parks in downtown Phoenix. The championship games are the culmination of the annual three-week tournament that Earl and Mary Rose Wilcox launched to provide a positive alternative to drugs and gangs.

Grant Park, 701 S. 3rd Ave., outdoor court

Tournament Trophy Presentation 6:30 PM

- * Former Suns player, Marc West
- * Current Cardinals Running Back J.R. Redman
- * Maricopa County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox
- * Vice-Mayor Michael Johnson

Championship games schedule:

Harmon Park, 1239 S. 5th Ave., downtown Phoenix

Saturday	9/03/05	3:30 PM	14 & Under
Saturday	9/03/05	4:30 PM	16 & Under
Saturday	9/03/05	5:30 PM	18 & Under

Grant Park, 701 S. 3rd Ave., downtown Phoenix

Saturday	9/03/05	4:30 PM	10 & Under
Saturday	9/03/05	5:30 PM	15 & Under (girls)

According to City of Phoenix crime statistics, the juvenile crime rate had been reduced by about 17% in the inner city neighborhood where the tournament program is run. Supervisor Wilcox says, "Gangs, violence and drugs may appear enticing at times, but we believe there is a better path for youth. Through involvement in this esteem-building program, we encourage them to stay involved in the community and to carry on in school."

The Wilcox Late Night Basketball Program seeks to provide creative alternatives for county-wide youths through the implementation of cultural and recreational activities for the purposes of the reduction of youth gang violence and criminal activity.

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